DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in reply to an amendment filed on December 04, 2007.

2. **Claims 1-30** are pending the application, with claims **1, 14, 24, 27 and 29** being independent. Claims 27 and 28 have been amended.

3. As the result of amendment filed and the Examiner amendment made to claims 29, the 101 rejection set forth in the pervious office action is overcome and the rejection is withdrawn.

Priority

4. This application does not claim priority of an application. Therefore, the effective filling data for the subject matter defined in the pending claims of this application is 12/28/2001

5. Applicant's representative William E. Hunter Reg. No. 47,671 and Examiner conducted telephone interview on 02/28/2008. During the interview all independent claims were discussed with respect to the art on the record. (Subject matter of the interview has been attached.)

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with **William E. Hunter Reg. No. 47,671** on 02/28/2008.

The application has been amended as follows: In the claims

1. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

transmitting a decoder core to be used with a predefined content decoder, the decoder core comprising instructions for causing the predefined content decoder to decrypt an encrypted version of digital content**;**

wherein the predefined content decoder is logically divided into the decoder core, which comprises computer program code that implements a decryption scheme, and remaining portions comprising an interface between the decoder core and one or more content presentation elements, thereby making the predefined content decoder independent of the decryption scheme.

14. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

receiving a decoder core comprising instructions for decrypting encrypted digital content; and

using the decoder core with a previously acquired content decoder to access the encrypted digital content**;**

wherein the content decoder is logically divided into the decoder core, which implements a decryption scheme, and remaining portions comprising an interface between the decoder core and one or more content presentation elements, thereby making the content decoder independent of the decryption scheme.

24. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium embodying information indicative of instructions for causing one or more machines to perform operations comprising:

defining an interface between a presentation portion and a decryption portion of a digital content player;

identifying a decoder core that uses the interface to effect the decryption portion of the digital content player; and

using the decoder core with the digital content player to access encrypted digital content**;**

wherein the decoder core implements a decryption scheme, and the presentation portion of the digital content player is independent of the decryption scheme.

27. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium embodying a content decoder comprising:

a module defining an interface between the content decoder and a mutable decoder core comprising instructions for causing the content decoder to decrypt encrypted media**;**

wherein the content decoder is logically divided into the mutable decoder core, which implements a decryption scheme, and remaining portions comprising the module defining the interface for use with content presentation, thereby making the content decoder independent of the decryption scheme.

29. (Currently Amended) A system for facilitating secure delivery of digital content, the system comprising:

one or more processors operationally coupled with

means for transmitting in response to a request, software plug-in means for decrypting digital content **[[;]]** and

means for receiving the software plug-in means and for presenting the digital content using the software plug-in means**;**

wherein the software plug-in means implements a decryption scheme, and the means for presenting the digital content is independent of the decryption scheme.

Allowable Subject Matter

As the result of Examiner's amendment,

- All independent claims **1, 14, 24, 27 and 29 are amended.**

6. **Claims 1-30** are allowed.

7. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

8. Referring to **the independent claims 1, 14, 24, 27 and 29** the art on the record, namely Kohno discloses each and every limitation of the claim before it is amended.

For instance Referring to pervious independent claims 1 and 14 Kohno discloses a method *[paragraph 0101, 0113 and 0153]* **comprising:**

- **Transmitting a decoder core [paragraph 0247-0251]**

("information stored on the storage medium/playback card" is met the "decoder core", on paragraph 0247, the following has been disclosed. "On the storage medium/playback card, information about a condition under which a movie is to be played, information used to mange distribution, and key data (also referred to simply as a key) used to decrypt encrypted content data are stored." Furthermore, on the same paragraphs 0247-0248, these information stored on storage medium/playback card/decoder core ***are transmitted/transported or distributed*** *to the movie*

theaters 502.) **to be used with a predefined content decoder,** *["playback apparatus" shown on figure 2, ref. Num "3"]*

- **The decoder core comprising instructions for causing the predefined content decoder to decrypt an encrypted version of digital content.** [Paragraph 0267 and 0262, 0089] *(The playback apparatus 3 content decoder, in each movie theater 502 receives the content data 6 and the associated additional information. The playback apparatus 3 reads the information stored on the delivery card 4. Using a key read from the delivery card 4, the playback apparatus 3 decrypts the encrypted content data and additional information, and plays back the content data in accordance with the additional information read from the delivery card 4. On paragraph 0262, it has been disclosed that as many delivery cards/decoder cores as there are movie theaters/playback apparatus/content decoder is produced and this meets the limitation of "predefined content decoder")*

Referring to pervious independent claim 24 Kohno discloses a machine-readable medium embodying information indicative

of instructions for causing one or more machines to perform operations *[paragraph 0101, 0113 and 0153]* **comprising:**

- **Defining an interface between a presentation portion** [Figure 6, ref. Num "212" and "213" and paragraph 0365 and paragraph 0814] ("The user control unit 210 is used by a human operator to issue various commands or data to the playback apparatus 3. Under the control of the display controller 212, the display unit 213 displays formation such as the additional information stored in the storage unit 209 so that the human operator can read the information. The display unit 213 also displays an operation guide or various menus.") **and**

a decryption portion of a digital content player *[figure 6, ref. Num "203" and paragraph 0452-0453] (Thereafter in step F53, the decryption unit 203 reads, via the card read/write controller 205, the decryption key DK2 generated by the key generator 204 and decrypts the received and demodulated decryption key DK1 using the decryption key DK2. Furthermore, using the decrypted decryption key DK1, the decryption unit 103 decrypts the content data and the additional information.)* ;

Identifying a decoder core that uses the interface to effect the decryption portion of the digital content player; and using the

decoder core with the digital content player to access encrypted digital content. *[0300 and 0344-0345] (When the additional information is read from the delivery card 4, the decryption unit 27 decrypts the encrypted decryption key DK1 stored in the delivery card 4, using the decryption key DK2 managed by the schedule managing unit 26. Using the decryption key DK1 decrypted by the decryption unit 27, it is possible to decrypt the encrypted additional information stored in the delivery card 4. And on paragraph 0344, the following has been disclosed. "More specifically, the card interface 211 gets access to the delivery card 4 returned from the relay server 2 to read the additional information and the decryption key. And on paragraph 0345, the following has been disclosed. "A decryption unit 203 decrypts encrypted data such as the encrypted content data and the encrypted additional information obtained via the demodulation performed by the demodulator 202 or decrypts the encrypted additional information or flag read from the delivery card 4 via the card read/write controller 205.")*

Referring to pervious independent claims 27, 29 Kohno discloses a content decoder [paragraph 0175 and figure 6] comprising: a module defining an interface [Figure 6, ref. Num "211"] **between the content decoder** [figure 6, ref. Num

"3"/paragraph 0175] **and a mutable decoder core** ["figure 6, ref. Num "4"] **comprising instructions for causing the content decoder to decrypt encrypted media.** *[Paragraph 0247-0251 and paragraph 0452-0453, paragraph 0087,] ("Information stored on the storage medium/playback card shown on figure 6, ref. Num "4" is met the "decoder core", on paragraph 0247, the following has been disclosed. "On the storage medium/playback card, information about a condition under which a movie is to be played, information used to mange distribution, and key data (also referred to simply as a key) used to decrypt encrypted content data are stored." Furthermore, on the same paragraphs 0247-0248, these information stored on storage medium/playback card/decoder core are transmitted/transported or distributed to the movie theaters 502/playback apparatus shown on figure 2, ref. Num "3" and paragraph 0452-0453, the following has been disclosed. "Thereafter in step F53, the decryption unit 203 reads, via the card read/write controller 205, the decryption key DK2 generated by the key generator 204 and decrypts the received and demodulated decryption key DK1 using the decryption key DK2. Furthermore, using the decrypted decryption key DK1, the decryption unit 103 decrypts the content data and the additional information." And on paragraph 0087, the following has been disclose. " Herein, the recording step may record, on the storage medium, an identifier of*

the data, an allowed reproduction period assigned to the data, and a key used to decrypt the data, and the updating step may update the information recorded on the storage medium" this updating implies that information stored on the storage medium is mutable/changes)

However after the claims are amended (by examiner amendment), the prior art on the record namely **Kohno**, does not disclose/teach elements of the limitation of the independent claims such as features that have been added with amendment.

None of the prior art of record taken singularly or in combination teaches or suggests a secure delivery of digital content **including the above added limitation to each independent claims** with the combination of other limitation recited in respective independent claims.

For the reasons provided above, the independent claims **1, 14, 24, 27 and 29** are found to be novel and are allowed.

9. **The dependent claims which are dependent on the independent claims 1, 14, 24, 27 and 29** being further limiting to the independent claims, definite and enabled by the specification are also allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid

processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submission should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Samson B Lemma whose telephone number is 571-272-3806. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:00 am --4: 30 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, BARRON JR GILBERTO can be reached on. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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02/28/2008

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